

# Hov News

Issue No.18 1st February 2024

<http://www.hoveringhamparishcouncil.org.uk/>

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*Photo by Kath Scott*

## Parish Council News - Dawn Parker

This edition is dedicated to all things flooding. We held a flood meeting on January 23rd which was well attended. The next flood meeting will be held prior to the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 26th March at 6pm.

The Parish Council is working with all agencies to try and ensure that as a community we are proactive in understanding and managing our own flood risk. Flood management responsibility falls under the following agencies and people:

**1. The Local Lead Flood Authority:** this is Notts County Council whose role it is to lead flood management and to coordinate with the various other agencies. We are fortunate to have Roger Jackson who attends our PC meetings and is also a Notts County Councillor as well as a Newark and Sherwood District Councillor. We are also in touch with the Flood Team at Notts CC.

**2.The Environment Agency:** in our area is responsible for flood risk management from the River Trent and the Dover Beck. We are lucky to have a very experienced EA representative as a resident, who has provided us with invaluable help.

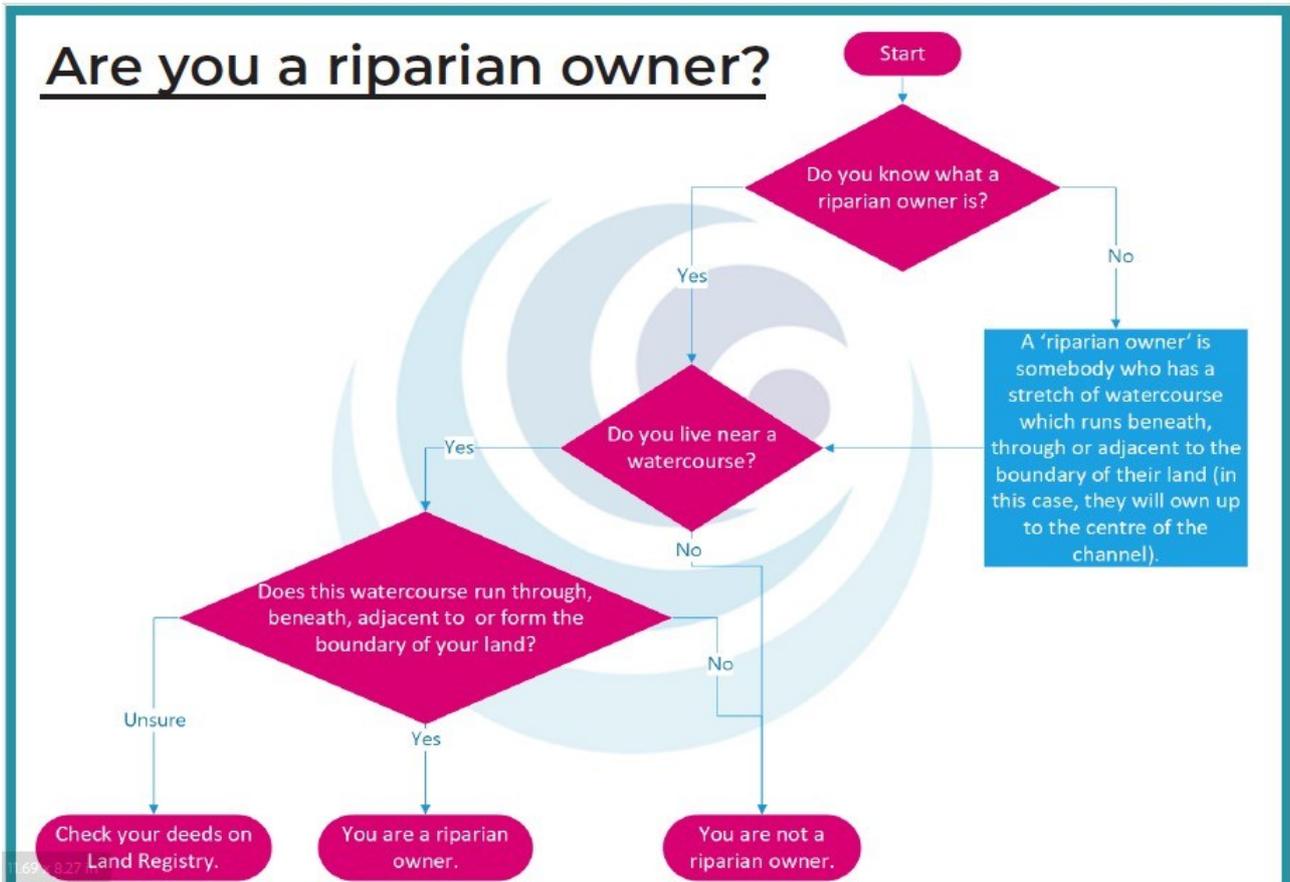
**3.Highways authorities:** responsible for highway drains and verges. For us this County Council function is fulfilled by VIA. The Parish Council has met with VIA to look at some problem areas for highway drains and we are taking this forward.

**4.Internal Drainage Board (IDB):** responsible for managing water levels in low-lying areas. They are the land drainage authority within their districts and their functions include supervising land drainage and flood defence works on ordinary watercourses. In Hoveringham, our IDB has adopted the larger dykes for which it is responsible for maintenance/dredging and the various flood defences it has installed. We currently have no direct contact with IDB (we're working on that) but have contact via Roger Jackson, our Notts CC and District Councillor.

**5.Water and Sewage Companies:** responsible for managing the risk of flooding to water supply and sewerage facilities and flood risks from the failure of their infrastructure. We are now in touch with Adam Greest from Severn Trent who is working with us to help resolve drains issues. Please see the separate report from Andy Ball.

**6.Riparian Owners:** not all of the watercourses are the responsibility of the IDB. There are numerous drainage ditches, becks etc that are the responsibility of the riparian owner. Over the years these can get clogged up with weeds and rubbish, be filled in or diverted and it is important that they are kept clear and functional so that they can either hold flood water or carry it through the system. The PC is trying to assess where there are problem areas where ditches and unadopted dykes need clearing and get this sorted with the cooperation of the owner and other agencies. We have attached a chart from <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/riparian-owner-toolkit/> which helps to assess if this could be your responsibility.

# Are you a riparian owner?



**Hoveringham Parish Council** - the Parish Council has no formal flood management responsibility, but it tends to be the party that is contacted by the various agencies. We try to help with communication and co-ordination in order to look after Hoveringham as a community both during and after flood incidents. In addition, the Parish Council maintains a modest flood store with limited flood supplies as well as maintaining the village hall as a flood evacuation facility, should it be needed.

**Residents:** that's you! The responsibility for protecting your property from flooding is yours and no one else's. Historically the Parish Council has tried to assist and has been able to source sand from local businesses and aqua bags from the council. It has also kept a stock of sandbags BUT these measures cannot be relied upon and will not be sufficient for a serious flood event. By way of example, you need at least 6 sandbags just for one standard door opening to keep out a 20cm level of water.

**Residents who are flood wardens:** have no formal responsibility. They are volunteers who help organise community flood response and help with road closures etc. They are not responsible for giving flood advice or flood proofing people's houses. They do not put themselves at risk by going into deep or fast flowing flood water. What they will do is be the "cool heads" checking up on people and helping where they can, liaising with emergency services etc where necessary and communicating with the people in their area. Our flood wardens fetched prescriptions, organised sand for sandbags from Creagh Concrete and distributed sandbags and flood supplies. We are looking for more volunteers as there are always people who are away when flooding happens, and we also need help with some of the Parish Council work on flood matters. You need to have time to attend training. If you would like to volunteer- please contact David Hall who heads up the flood wardens : [David@parkerhall.net](mailto:David@parkerhall.net) or via the WhatsApp flood group.

## Personal Flood Planning:

We talked at the flood meeting about personal flood planning - we have compiled a few notes with key information:

### Who needs to prepare for flooding?

The short answer is all of us.

Hoveringham is in a floodplain and so almost all houses in Hoveringham have a medium to high risk of flooding. The maps maintained by the Environment Agency are accessible to the public and you can check the risk to your property here: <https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>.

It was made clear to us that just because your property has never flooded does not mean it can't or won't happen. Every flood incident is different. The River Trent was described at the meeting as being like the trunk of a large tree. The branches of the tree are all the other rivers and tributaries which all feed into and are collected into the River Trent. It follows that there are a vast number of possible variables in a flood, depending on how much water is coming from each "branch" into the River Trent, and when. It has been made very clear to us from the agencies we have spoken to that:

- a. Flooding is becoming more frequent.
- b. The terminology of "once in every 25 year flood" "once in a 100year flood" is wrong and misleading. Serious floods can and will happen at any time.

The other thing that is perhaps worth reiterating is that there is no truth in the rumour that Hoveringham has ever, or would ever, be used to save other areas of Nottingham from flooding. Our local EA representative made it very clear at our flood meeting that the Environment Agency has a statutory duty to protect from flooding and has no power to sacrifice one area to save another.

### So, first thing's first...

There are a few things you should do if you haven't already:

- a. Sign up for flood warnings from the Environment Agency which you can do here: <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>. It is important to take these warnings seriously, if there is a flood alert, make sure you have food in the house and get what you need (medicines etc) sorted. If you need medicines during a flood event contact a flood warden on Hov Watch or via the Whatsapp group, rather than risking travelling through deep floodwater.
- b. Sign up for Hov Watch and if you have a neighbour who isn't signed up- help them to do it. To do that please email [robduffy5@yahoo.com]
- c. Join the Flood Whatsapp group if you haven't already- this is minute to minute information and requests etc during a flood event: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HmPb6Mlj87uDlynSycB9aP>
- d. Make sure you have important insurance, banking, passport etc info to hand and above ground level.

We have tried to put together some information, of what you may want to consider having to hand. This information is based on our “collective experience” what we have heard and things that have worked and things that haven’t- we hope it is useful as a starting point for your own research:

### Flood Check List

**Flood store:** it is worth having a separate water-proof area where you keep your all of your flood kit and supplies together. This needs to be near the house and not somewhere that you may not reach in a flood event. A local flood defence guru has a waterproof storage box in the garden near the door.

**Check what you have already:** some houses in the village may have had flood defences fitted – have you seen frames to the side of door frames for flood gates to be fitted? If you have it is important to find them and if you change doors make sure they still fit! There is a knack to fitting flood gates securely so make sure you have tried this, and you know how to do it.

**Sandbags:** Aqua Sacs are used as an alternative to traditional sandbags. They are flatpack jute bags that are filled with a water retaining substance so lightweight and easily stored.

Info can be found here (although there are a number of similar products/outlets): <https://aetflooddefence.com/aqua-sac-sand-bag/>

They have at least a 5-year shelf life according to this website and if they have not been used to soak up contaminants there are a number of options for either re-use or recycling.

**Plastic:** it is useful to have plastic sheeting or tarpaulin to put between the doors/entrances and the sandbags.

**Airbrick flood covers** – check if airbricks are low down and therefore pose a flood risk. Flood covers can be bought and used as a temporary measure to stop water ingress.

**Pumps:** there are different types of pump – a **sump pump** will only work if it is fully submerged so it is not used for the first water ingress or pooling that is not deep enough for the sump pump to work. You will also need to check that if you have a sump pump, it will not be damaged if the water drops below that level- will it automatically switch off or will it get damaged? One resident had smart plugs set up to guard against this. Below the deeper levels of flood water you can get a pump (sometimes called a puddle pump) which operates without needing to be submerged. When pumps are used, they tend to be used for very long periods of time (it can be days at a time)- so consider having a spare and make sure your pumps are maintained and checked every year. Also consider what you would use if the electric is also affected. Received wisdom is that it is important to keep pumping even if technically there is nowhere to pump to- just recycling the water will help to stop floodwater rising.

**Stopping flooding from downstairs toilets/plugholes- one-way valves and toilet bungs:** when there is a lot of flood water this can get into the drains and cause them to overflow resulting in water coming up through plugholes and toilets. One simple way is to consider fitting a drain non return valve – this has a single flap to prevent water backing up the drainpipe and flooding your property. Alternatively, you can purchase toilet bungs that can be fitted to the toilet to prevent water coming up. Whilst we are talking about toilets, bear in mind that if drains start to back up it may no longer be possible to use your toilet even if it is not “bunged”, it may not be possible to flush it. Flood defence gurus in the village recommend camping loos or similar.

**Generator:** in a really serious flood, if your property is flooded then this may affect the electrics. Equally serious flooding could result in a power outage. A generator could give you heat and light and keep the pumps going.

**Keeping things off the ground:** not everything can be taken upstairs but local flood defence gurus recommend putting heavy stuff on pallet perches, waterproof covers (like the ones used for outside sofas) or even cutting the tops off plastic milk cartons and using them to put your table legs in. If you are making changes at home- extending or re-purposing outbuildings then it is worth doing the flood planning in advance and making sure that you have not increased your flood risk by what you do.

**What do you do if you are flooded?** A personal flood plan template is attached, courtesy of the Environment Agency which sets out what you should do. You can complete this to help your preparations at each stage.

**Reporting flooding:** one thing that was stressed at our flood meeting by the EA representative is that information on flooding is important and needs to be given to agencies to help improve things and to create the “business case” for the investment in infrastructure that could make a real difference. It is a matter of public record that Hoveringham is floodplain and information about the flood risk is public and readily obtainable to insurers and everyone else - so this is no secret. You should not be worried that sharing information with the various flood management agencies is the wrong thing to do for you personally. We were told at our meeting that information about individual properties is not published but provides a very valuable resource to the agencies. Its collection and use is subject to strict limitations which each agency would be happy to explain to you before you provide the information. You could also qualify for flood grants or equipment. On that note if you experienced issues with drains please contact Adam Greest from Severn Trent and complete the questionnaire Andy Ball has included in this newsletter.

[Personal Flood Plan](#)

[Sewer Flooding](#)

## Meeting with Severn Trent Water on Tuesday 23rd January — Andy Ball

Adam Greest from Severn Trent Water (STW) met the village having previously met Andrew Ball and Helen Nall to scope out sewage concerns after Storms Henk and October's Babet.

He met around 20-30 residents and took away actions, but still wants to make some arrangements to visit other residents affected.

There have been access issues with the Gonalston Lane pumping station as it is a narrow access, and this is something that is being investigated further- however it was pumped out recently we believe.

Adam has a list of properties that he wishes to talk to understand their individual needs.

Perhaps residents reading this will make themselves known to Dawn Parker or Adam (details below) to discuss their specific details?

He has attached one of their questionnaires - which you are free to keep a copy of and pass along to anyone who requires to report an incident. These can come straight back to Adam, and the PC encourage you to utilise them. Data is so important and incidents of flooding and sewage from the STW system, number of customers affected, number of times occurring creates a drive for improvements- essentially the better the detail we get, the better the response and actions that STW can take.

Pumping Stations – Adam has invited one of the Pumping Station Managers to attend the next meeting with Adam, (most likely March or April), however rather than an acceptance to the meeting he sent over some information instead which we share with you.

Representatives from their "Waste Water Recycling" teams are not really customer facing, however each of Hoveringham's Sewage Pumping Stations (Thurgarton-, Gonalston- and Boat- Lane) receives a yearly cleanse of the Wet Well (The Tank storing the sewage where the pumps are sited), and a yearly proactive check which includes pump performance, exercising valves and a full check of all the telemetry alarms in case of failures. Adam mentioned during the meeting that any alarm coming into them from a site initiates an immediate response to check the asset in addition to the yearly checks.

Specifically, regarding the Gonalston Lane sewage pump station, his colleague noted that that they did the last vegetation cut on site here as they needed access for the Wet Well Cleanse and would welcome future local support in maintaining clearance to allow access. Each Pumping Station site does have a site-specific contingency plan in case of breakdown or burst to the pressurized main from the site. This plan has specific details to isolate and manage flows away from the station in case of need and can be implemented quickly.

Furthermore, Adam states there is obviously a great deal of work to do between each agency involved let's hope we can improve the issues for all concerned.

So again, as residents let's work with them.

He also cited that we were already doing a great job ourselves and was impressed with our organisation, implementation of flood wardens, and generally being a great community to help those who need assistance in times of flooding crisis. He stated to keep reporting the blocked road gullies to Nottinghamshire County Council and VIA. The watercourse ownership lists that we are collating at the PC are a great idea and encouraging liaison with Riparian owners is valuable work. If we ensure the culverts to these watercourses are clear, then we are doing so much more than has been seen in other communities.

Adam Greest

Adam.Greest@severntrent.co.uk

07889 632832.



*Photos courtesy of Steve Brammer*



*Photos courtesy of Steve Brammer*



*Photos courtesy of Steve Brammer*

## Boxing Day football – another win for the Laners

There are two certainties in life other than death and taxes: first, that every year, the Laners play the Street at football on the Chapel Field at 11 am; and second, that the Laners win. A glance at the Hoveringham history stall, curated lovingly by Chris Lambert (Main Street Captain 'til his knees went) and present at all village events, will reveal accounts of successive Laners victories since the tradition began nearly 30 years ago. History does not lie. So certain is the result that it seems hardly necessary to be present at the game to know the score.

And so it was this year. As ever, I'm told, the Laners were outnumbered by about 50%. As ever, the referee played for the Street. As ever, the fourth official in charge of keeping time was married to the referee and lived on the Street. And as ever, against all odds, a doughty Laners side prevailed.

The score, having missed the game myself, eludes me, but in keeping with tradition the winning goal was almost certainly scored by C Lambert (og). The tradition prevails. Same again next year – 11 o'clock chapel field, 12 o'clock Reindeer, all welcome, hope to see you then!

John



### Soft Edges Art Group

For information about joining the group  
please contact.....

Joyce Rick 07929 328207



### The Minkley Club Draw

Open to all residents in support of our village hall. Just £5 per month and you have the chance to Win.... £100, £50, and £25 each month

Please Contact : [jmhopewell@hopewells.co.uk](mailto:jmhopewell@hopewells.co.uk)





**Hoveringham Village Hall is available to hire  
please visit website for details.**

[www.hoveringhamparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.hoveringhamparishcouncil.org.uk)

Wedding receptions - private parties etc.

Special Occasions and events, funeral receptions etc.

### **Open Water Swimming in Hoveringham - Cadi Lambert**

Membership for swimming is £12 per year and it costs £6 for each swim once you've joined.  
(discounts are available).

For more information on the lake and how to join.....

visit: Nottingham - **LoveOpenWater Swimming,**  
**or contact Cadi on 07834549523.**



# HOVERINGHAM

**SPRING**

**CRAFT FAYRE**

**Saturday 16th March  
10am - 2pm**

Lots of Top quality crafts !

\* Refreshments \*

**FREE ADMISSION**

HOVERINGHAM VILLAGE HALL  
NOTTINGHAM NG14 7JH

Enquiries: [events@hoveringham.net](mailto:events@hoveringham.net)

Contact: [events@hoveringham.net](mailto:events@hoveringham.net)

[www.hoveringham.net](http://www.hoveringham.net)

Diane Yates

07931126518

### Hoveringham WI

The December meeting was a Christmas door wreath workshop where we all created a willow based door wreath using fresh foliage which members brought along and shared between us they were then finished off with a selection of cones, dried orange slices and raffia or fabric bows.

In January we held a social evening at the home of Angela Halfpenny members each brought along a plate of food that we then shared with the odd glass of fizz.

We have a full programme of speakers planned for the coming year and always welcome new members, our current membership now stands at 20 ladies. We generally meet in the Minkley room at the village hall on the first thursday of the month but for more details call Diane Yates 07931 126518.

During December we also arranged a collection of toiletries which we then donated to Emmanuel House in Nottingham these items were then distributed to users at the night shelter or sofa surfers known to the Charity. We received well over 200 items. I have enclosed the thankyou letter from Emmanuel house and a photo of the items.



*Letter from Emmanuel House on next page.*

Dear Diane,

Thank you very much for your recent donation of toiletries to Emmanuel House Support Centre. We will give them out to people who are homeless or rough sleeping in Nottingham.

It is the support of the wider community that enables us to succeed in helping people out of homelessness and we are deeply grateful for your donation.

In October 2023, the number of people seen rough sleeping in Nottingham was the highest ever in recent times. You will have noticed the increase in people sleeping in doorways and we must not forget the many people hidden from view, sofa surfing with friends, living in hotel rooms with children, sleeping in cars to avoid losing work. There is also an affordable housing crisis. Mixed together, the data indicates a perfect storm, but regardless of how bad the circumstances are, we need to keep fighting homelessness so that it does not escalate and draw even more people into trauma and misery. We are only ever going to be able to do that in partnership with the community.

Nobody in Britain should be living in a tent or on the streets. It is not a lifestyle choice. It is unacceptable that homelessness exists at all, but Emmanuel House continues to welcome people without judgement and aid recovery from the trauma of rough sleeping and homelessness. Your donation will contribute to this work. Our new short film features four people who have received support from Emmanuel House.



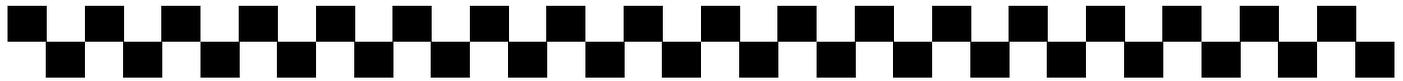
Indoor cricket from **September 2023**  
Winter nets from **24th January 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> Team  
Division C  
SNCL**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team  
Division K  
SNCL**

**U15 & U13  
Teams**  
> SIGN UP <

Contact Patrick on **07870677401**  
or email **pd@hoveringhamcc.com**



## SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS

### THE POLICE REQUEST THAT ALL CRIMES BE REPORTED AS IT HELPS WITH THEIR INTELLIGENCE

Our Beat Officer is PC Dawn Adams assisted by PCSOs - Keith Crowhurst 078897 02823 and Rachel Swinney 07917 243243

To contact the Police:

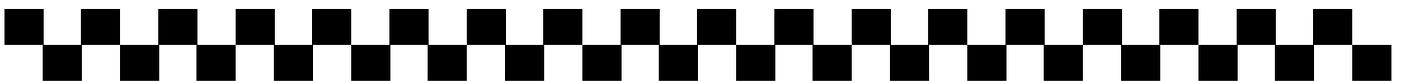
Team Phone number and non- emergencies or to report an incident that has already

Happened: **101 – Ext 805 7062**      **Emergencies only 999**

Antisocial behaviour team Led by Terry Bailey **01636 655488**

To alert your neighbours to any suspicious activity, use: [hovwatch@googlegroups.com](mailto:hovwatch@googlegroups.com)

To join Hovwatch please contact Rob Duffy ([robduffy5@yahoo.com](mailto:robduffy5@yahoo.com)) or email details to: [news@hoveringham.net](mailto:news@hoveringham.net)



### BIN DAY! CHECK - ON LINE

#### February 2024

 Brown garden recycling, Monday 5th

 Green refuse, Tuesday 6th

 Silver recycling, Tuesday 13th

 ~~Brown garden recycling cancelled,~~  
Monday 19th

 Green refuse, Tuesday 20th

 Silver recycling, Tuesday 27th

#### March 2024

 Brown garden recycling, Monday 4th

 Green refuse, Tuesday 5th

 Silver recycling, Tuesday 12th

 Brown garden recycling, Monday 18th

 Green refuse, Tuesday 19th

 Silver recycling, Tuesday 26th

# HOVERINGHAM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Joanne Rooney  
Chairman  
0115 9669450  
jorooneyhovpc@gmail.com

Dawn Hall      dawn.hovpc@gmail.com      9664362  
Peter Rooney      peter.rooney2008@gmail.com  
Andy Ball      ajb294@gmail.com  
Katie Ollivere      katie.hovpc@gmail.com

L J Campbell  
Clerk to the Council  
01623 238712  
hovpc.clerk@yahoo.co.uk



Roger Jackson

District & County Councillor

0115 9663970

**Church warden**

Sir Edward Nall - Tel: 0115 9663634

*Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings, to address the meeting it is requested that the council is given prior notice as the item needs to be added to the agenda, which is published a week before the meeting.*

**Articles for Next issue Please send to:**

**news@hoveringham.net**

**Thank you!**

**Newsletter Team:- Rob Duffy, Ros Hill, Dawn Parker, Jo Rooney,**